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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/815,450	03/22/2001	Krishanu Seal	AMAZON.063A	7645

20995 7590 04/13/2004

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EXAMINER

AKERS, GEOFFREY R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3625

DATE MAILED: 04/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

69/815410

Applicant(s)

Soul

Examiner

1/2/01

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3805

MW

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE \_\_\_\_\_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3/24/01
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of:

- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 38
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. Claims 1-27 are rejected over 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Teper(US Pat. No: 5,815,665) in view of Ojha(US Pat. No: 6,598,026).

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2. As per claims 1-27 Teper teaches a method for invoking delivery of a digital product from a computer of a vendor to a computer of a customer while maintaining customer anonymity(Abstract) with respect to the vendor(col 2 lines 31-48).Teper further teaches user computers(Fig 1/40) incorporating brokering applications(Fig 1/44/42) communicating over the Internet(Fig 1/30) with a brokering server(Fig 1/50). Teper also teaches the user being authenticated(Fig 2/84) and the online broker sending access rights to the specified site(Fig 2/86) and the site sending billing events to the online broker utilizing a session ID(Fig 2/88)and user viewing a bill(Fig 2/92).Teper further teaches that the user views the bill and updates customization information(Fig 3/92) as well as the user computer communicating with the server in protocol for communication(Fig 3/1/2/3).Teper teaches access rights updates(Fig 3/90) and verification/session information(Fig 3/5/4). Teper also teaches the use of user token lists(Fig 6)(Fig 4/F) as well as a accounts database(Fig 4/64B) and a security system and database(Fig 4/64C) in the online broker. Teper also teaches the use of encryption of data that is passed between the user and the web server(Fig 6/112).Teper also teaches that the online brokerage service sends an anonymous session ID to the to allow the site to anonymous bill the user for services purchased(col 3 lines 31-34)

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without the user exposing the address of the customer to the vendor. Teper teaches that services are purchased without transmitting payment information as credit card number or personal information of the user(col 4 lines 33-36) and without exposing this information to the service providers(col 4 lines 35-36). Teper further teaches that the user's identity is stored in a single centralized location and not revealed to service providers(col 6 lines 41-44). Teper further teaches that various service provider services may be provided for personalized services(col 8 lines 7-16)(col 8 lines 63-66). In addition to that taught by Teper, Ojha also teaches performing brokering transaction between a customer and a plurality of sellers on the Internet(Abstract). Ojha teaches that there is search for the products for the customer(Fig 3) where a buyer utilizes his e-mail address for price negotiations(Fig 3) and information on transactions(Fig 12) and recipient of bids(Fig 13A). Ojha also teaches that a table about products and manufacturers may be mailed to potential customers(Fig 3/300). Ojha also teaches that products offered by merchants have asking prices(Fig 9). Ojha teaches listing a plurality of products(Fig 11) and a shopping list(Fig 15). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Teper in view of Ojha to teach the disclosure. The motivation to combine is to teach an e-commerce mechanism for buyers and sellers to negotiate on the Internet in an anonymous fashion as enunciated by Ojha(col 2 lines 40-44).

### ***Conclusion***

### **3. THIS ACTION IS MADE NON-FINAL.**

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4. Any questions concerning this communication should be addressed to the examiner of record, Dr. Geoffrey Akers, P.E., who can be reached between 6:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday at 703-306-5844. If attempts to contact the examiner are unsuccessful, the primary examiner's superior, Mr. Vincent Millin, SPE, may be telephoned at (703)-308-1065.

GRA

April 2, 2004

DR. GEOFFREY R. AKERS, P.E.  
PRIMARY EXAMINER